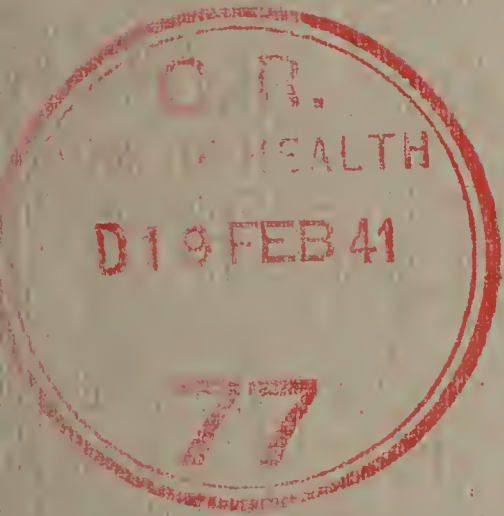


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BOROUGH OF NELSON

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# REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health  
1939

R. G. MARKHAM, M.B., D.P.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health.





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**BOROUGH OF NELSON**

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

ALDERMAN R. BLAND (Chairman).

COUNCILLOR H. HAYTHORNTHWAITE (Vice-Chairman).

THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN H. W. THROUP).

ALDERMAN W. BANNISTER

,, R. J. HUSBAND

,, A. SMITH

COUNCILLOR E. ASHWORTH

,, A. DOLLIMORE

,, W. H. HINDLE

,, S. JACKSON

,, W. PENNINGTON

,, S. SHAW

,, D. J. SPEAK

,, MISS N. TURNER

,, J. WIDDUP

,, MISS A. WILSON

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

COUNCILLOR MISS A. WILSON (Chairman).

THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN H. W. THROUP)

ALDERMAN W. BANNISTER

,, R. BLAND

,, A. SMITH

COUNCILLOR E. ASHWORTH

,, A. DOLLIMORE

,, H. HAYTHORNTHWAITE

,, W. H. HINDLE

,, S. SHAW

,, MISS N. TURNER

MRS. WESTWELL

MISS S. E. WHITTAKER

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**Officers of the Public Health Department**

Medical Officer of Health ..... R. G. MARKHAM, M.B., D.P.H.  
Chief Sanitary Inspector ..... MR. J. W. INGHAM  
Assistant Inspector ..... MR. S. GRINDROD  
Assistant Inspector and Chief Clerk ..... MR. S. HAYDOCK  
Clerk ..... MR. A. WILDMAN  
Housing Records Supervisor ..... MR. N. GRIFFITHS  
Health Visitors ... MISS B. E. EDMONDSON, MRS. B. WILKINSON,  
and MRS. A. H. FRANKLAND\*  
Matron, Maternity Home ..... MISS G. E. MYERS, C.M.B.  
(Resigned July, 1939)  
MISS I. BARKER, S.R.N., C.M.B. (Commenced July, 1939)

\* Part time.



## LIST OF LOCAL AND ADOPTED SANITARY ACTS ADMINISTERED BY THE COUNCIL.

Nelson Water and Gas Act, 1866.

Nelson Local Board Act, 1879.

Nelson Improvement Act, 1886.

Nelson Local Board Act, 1888.

Nelson Corporation Act, 1903.

Nelson Provisional Orders, 1871, 1873, 1876, 1890, 1895, 1897,  
1899, 1904.

Borough of Nelson (Extension) Order, 1897.

The Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889.

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, adopted 1891.

The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, adopted 1896.

The Notification of Births Act, 1907, adopted 1911.

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, parts adopted  
1912.

The Nelson Corporation Act, 1921.

The Public Health Act, 1925, except Sections 15, 35 and 41.

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## LIST OF BYELAWS RELATING TO SANITARY MATTERS IN FORCE IN THE BOROUGH.

Date of Adoption.

1890—Common Lodging Houses.

1897—Offensive Trades :—

Blood Boiler.

Blood Drier.

Bone Boiler.

Fellmonger.

Tanner.

Leather Dresser.

Soap Boiler.

Tallow Melter.

Fat Melter.

Tripe Boiler.

Glue Maker.

Size Maker.

Gut Scraper.

1897—Nuisances.

1897 & 1907—Slaughter Houses.

1911—Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Regulations.

1912—Sanitary Conveniences.

1926—New Streets and Buildings.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE,  
NELSON.

OCTOBER, 1940.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.**

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting a report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year ended the 31st December, 1939.

Existing conditions have necessitated a change in the nature of the Report, and I propose to give only essential features in the form of a summary.

Figures obtained normally from the Registrar General are delayed and therefore cannot be included, but, should they become available later, will be published as an appendix to this report.

A record is kept of deaths occurring in the town. Particulars are available of the number of deaths occurring in other districts of persons whose homes were in Nelson. These combined figures together with an analysis of the causes of death, are submitted, but, as these are subject to revision, when the corrected figures are received, the death rate given can only be regarded as approximate.

All births occurring in the Borough are recorded, and the number of births relative to non-residents are included in this record. At present I have no knowledge of the number of births relative to Nelson residents which have occurred outside the Borough, and thus it is impossible to give even an approximate birth rate.

The infantile mortality rate is calculated on the corrected number of births for the year. This rate therefore cannot be ascertained until the final figures are available.

The outstanding feature of the year was the remarkable freedom from illness of an infectious nature notifiable under the Infectious Diseases Notification Acts. Measles and Whooping Cough were added to the list of compulsory notifiable diseases from the 23rd October. Notwithstanding this addition, only 92 notifications were received during the year, against an average number per year during the previous ten years of 197. There were only 10 cases of Scarlet Fever and 4 cases of Diphtheria during the year. This small number of cases was well below the average of other years.

It is a coincidence that since becoming a constituent member of the Joint Hospital Board, the number of cases necessitating removal to Hospital has been exceptionally small. During the year 7 cases were removed to hospital, 5 being notifiable diseases, and 2, cases of non-notifiable infectious disease in which isolation and adequate nursing attention were imperative.

An Open Air Swimming Pool was installed during the year at Marsden Park. This may be considered an adjunct to the health of the Town as well as providing additional recreative facilities. The Pool has a water area of 722 square yards, is supplied with town's water, and a filtration plant has been installed capable of turning over the whole contents of the pool every six hours at a filtration speed not exceeding 200 gallons per square foot per hour.

An important addition to the Maternity and Child Welfare Services has been the provision for Ante-natal Mothers of Dental treatment. Also the provision of Home Helps for Mothers during the period of confinement or after.

I am indebted to the following Officials who have supplied me with particulars relating to work coming under their supervision, and which particulars are embodied in the course of this report.

Mr. F. V. Alexander, Borough Surveyor.

Mr. J. Gilchrist Smith, Water Engineer.

Mr. H. Reid, Borough Treasurer.

Dr. F. Hall, County Medical Officer of Health.

Supt. T. Pickering, Lancashire County Constabulary.

Dr. B. MacPhee, Consultant Tuberculosis Officer.

Mr. V. Robinson, Director of Public Cleansing.

Under the changing conditions of the year, the work of the Department has varied considerably from previous years.

Though additional work has had to receive marked attention, the essential services pertaining to the general public health have not been neglected, and I have to record the willing co-operation of all the members of the staff in carrying out the varying duties imposed upon them throughout the year under review.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. G. MARKHAM, M.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.



## 1.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres .....	3,466
Population. Census 1931 .....	38,306
Registrar-General's estimate of	
(a) Resident population mid 1939 .....	Not yet available
(b) Average population appropriate to the calculation of death rates.....	Not yet available
Number of inhabited houses—(a) Census 1931 .....	11,128
(b) End of 1939 according to rate books .....	11,635
Rateable value .....	£237,424
Sum represented by a penny rate .....	£911

Social conditions, including the chief industries carried on in the Area :—The chief industry of the district is weaving, either cotton or silk, along with the trades allied thereto. Up to the outbreak of hostilities there had been little change in social conditions, though unemployment was becoming less pronounced.

### METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS.

#### RAINFALL.

Records are available from five rain gauges of which three are situate in the proximity of the reservoirs, one in Victoria Park, and one at the Meteorological Station in the Cemetery grounds.

Variable results are shown ; at Ogden 48.85 inches of rainfall were recorded for the year, Coldwell No. 1 recorded 38.43 inches, Coldwell No. 2, 44.43 inches, Victoria Park 40.83 inches, and at the Meteorological Station 40.12 inches were recorded.

The daily records from the Meteorological Station show that during the year there were 234 days on which rain fell; that the greatest fall in one day was 2.07 inches on the 25th November; that November was the wettest month with 8.46 inches and rain falling on 26 days ; and that May was the driest month with a total rainfall of 0.88 inches spread over 11 days.

## BRIGHT SUNSHINE.

The total number of hours of Bright Sunshine recorded for the year was 12,432, giving a daily average of 3.4 hours. Bright sunshine was recorded on 286 days during the year, the highest daily record being 15.8 hours on the 2nd June.

## THERMOMETERS.

Maximum and minimum readings throughout the year show :—

Highest maximum temperature...	81.6° on the 6th June.
Lowest           ,,                   ,,           ...	32.2° on the 2nd February.
Highest minimum temperature...	60.6° on the 3rd September
Lowest minimum temperature...	14.8° on the 3rd February.
Mean temperature for the year ...	47.5°
Lowest temperature on the grass	5.4° on the 5th January.
Highest Solar Radiation reading	125.8° on the 4th June.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

415 deaths were registered as having occurred in Nelson during the year. Of these 19 were non-residents of the Borough. There were 129 deaths in other areas of persons whose home address had been in Nelson, and this gives a nett number of deaths for the year allotted to Nelson of 525. Assuming no further corrections are to be recorded this is a reduction of 25 on the number of deaths in 1938.

A crude death rate, based on the estimated population for the previous year would be 14.9 per thousand inhabitants.

An analysis of the deaths compiled from the local information available and showing the causes of, and the ages at death, is as follows :—





Whilst this analysis gives a general idea of the number of deaths from the various causes, the figures are subject to revision, and therefore comment on them is withheld.

In passing it may be noted that 22 deaths occurred of infants under one year of age, an increase of 4 on the number for the previous year; that 3 deaths may be attributed to puerperal causes, an increase of one on the number for 1938; and that 10 deaths may be attributed to influenza, an increase of 4 on the previous year's number.

A summary of the weekly returns of Births reveals that 261 births were registered during the year as having occurred in Nelson. Of these 27 were relative to non-residents of the Borough.

The final corrected figure of the number of births on which the annual birth rate is calculated will include the births which have occurred in other districts and are relative to Nelson residents.

At the present therefore I am unable to give any indication as to the birth rate for the year.

A brief analysis of the births in Nelson, excluding non-residents, shows that of the live births there were 112 males and 112 females legitimate, and 6 males and 4 females illegitimate.

In addition 10 still births were registered, all legitimate.

Calculation of the Infantile Mortality Rate will have to await the corrected number of births.

Analysis of the 22 infant deaths shows:—10 deaths occurred within 24 hours of birth, 1 occurred on the 2nd day, 3 on the 4th day, and 2 on the 5th day, these giving a total of 16 deaths within the first week. One death occurred in the 3rd week, two between the age of 1 and 3 months, two between the age of 3 and 6 months, and one between the age of 6 and 9 months.

Causes of death showed 10 to be due to Prematurity, 6 due to Congenital causes, 5 to Chest Diseases, and 1 to other defined causes.



## 2.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

### PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

The Staff of the Public Health Department consists of (a) the Medical Officer of Health, who is also School Medical Officer, (b) a Chief Sanitary Inspector, (c) two Assistant Sanitary Inspectors (one of whom acts as Chief Clerk), (d) General Clerk, (e) a Supervisor for the purposes of overcrowding and the keeping of house records in connection therewith, (f) two whole-time Health Visitors and one part-time Health Visitor, in the latter case part time is devoted to work in connection with the School Medical Service, (g) Matron of the Maternity Home, the staff thereat being under her control, and (h) a part-time Veterinary Inspector who makes examination of all the farm premises within the Borough, and assists when required in Meat and Food Inspections.

### AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Two motor ambulances are provided by the Local Authority and are kept at the Fire Station. These are available for use in cases of accident and other non-infectious cases, including maternity cases, requiring removal to or from Hospital. Arrangements for use are made through the Superintendent of the Fire Brigade, who has charge of this service.

For infectious cases there is a motor ambulance under the control of the Public Health Department.

### LABORATORY FACILITIES.

There has been no change in the laboratory facilities during the year. In connection with the Public Health Offices a small laboratory is used at which specimens sent in from the local Practitioners are dealt with, and examination of the Milk supply systematically carried out. In addition an arrangement with the Clinical Research Association is still in operation.

During the year 618 specimens have been dealt with and 180 samples of milk analysed and tested.

### PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

An annual contribution is paid to the District Nursing Association, and an arrangement with them provides nursing assistance to be rendered in certain cases of Measles, Ophthalmia Neonatorum and Puerperal Pyrexia. The arrangements for Nursing Assistance have to be made through the

Medical Officer of Health, following a request by the medical practitioner in attendance, and a fee is paid to the Nursing Association according to the number of visits paid.

No application for Nursing Assistance has been made during the year. The Association supply three nurses, but no midwifery or monthly nursing is undertaken. No co-ordination exists between the Nursing Association and the Local Authority in respect of Maternity and Child Welfare duties.

The Local Authority contribute annually to Reedyford Hospital, Nelson, and also to the Manchester Hospitals, including the Royal Infirmary, St. Mary's, The Royal Eye Hospital and the Royal Children's Hospital.

#### CLINIC AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

The following is a list of the Clinic and Treatment Centres available to Nelson residents.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| (a) Maternity and Child Welfare Centre. | Provided by the Local Authority, and situated in Carr Road. A weekly session is held on Wednesday afternoon.   |
| (b) Ante-Natal Centre.                  | Provided by the Local Authority, and held at the Infant Welfare Centre, 9 Carr Road, Nelson. Two sessions weekly: Monday, 6-0 to 8-0 p.m., and Thursday, 2-0 to 6-0 p.m. |
| (c) Day Nursery.                        | No Day Nursery provided, but the Education Authority have opened a Nursery School for children under 5 years of age situated in Bradley Road, Nelson.                    |
| (d) School Clinic.                      | Provided by the Local Authority, situated in Carr Road, and open daily.  |
| (e) Orthopædic Clinic.                  | Provided co-jointly by the Local Authority and the County Council. Weekly session held at the School Clinic on Friday.   |
| (f) Artificial Light Clinic.            | Provided by the County Council in conjunction with their provision for tubercular patients, and situated at the Tuberculosis Dispensary.                                 |
| (g) Tuberculosis Dispensary.            | Provided by the County Council and situated at 64 Carr Road, Nelson.   |
| (h) Venereal Diseases Treatment Centre. | Provided by the County Council and situated at the Victoria Hospital, Burnley.   |

## HOSPITALS IN THE DISTRICT.

(a) There is no Public Assistance Hospital within the Borough, the Institution for the Area being the Municipal Hospital at Burnley.

(b) One Voluntary Hospital only is situate within the Borough, this being the Reedyford War Memorial Hospital.

(c) The Fern Lea Maternity Home, Nelson, provided by the Local Council, has provision for 10 beds.

(d) No institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate children or homeless children is provided within the Borough.

## THE NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION ACT, 1927.

There are no premises within the Borough that are registered under the above Act.

**3.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

## WATER SUPPLY.

This is derived from two gathering grounds, one 4 miles distant on the east side of the town, supplying Coldwell Reservoir, and one four miles distant on the west side of the town, supplying Ogden Reservoir.

Lower Coldwell Reservoir: — Altitude 943 feet; capacity 80,000,000 gallons; Filtration: — 4 “ Bell ” Pressure Filters. Upper Coldwell Reservoir — Altitude 990 feet; capacity 43,500,000 gallons. Nature of water, good, very slightly hard.

Ogden Reservoirs: — No. 1, Altitude 989 feet ; capacity 54,500,000 gallons. No. 3, Altitude 837 feet; capacity 157,500,000 gallons; filtration, 12 “ Bell ” Vertical Pressure Filters, and two “ Paterson ” Horizontal Pressure Filters, followed by Chloramine treatment. Nature of water, good, soft.

Ridgaling Service Reservoir:—Altitude 755 feet; capacity 5,000,000 gallons.

Waidshouse Service Reservoir:—Altitude 718 feet; capacity 2,000,000 gallons.

The total storage capacity of the reservoirs is approximately 160 days' supply.



The average daily consumption of water is 2,143,126 gallons which includes the compensation water discharge from the Coldwell reservoir. The daily consumption per head of population in the area of supply was 42.7 gallons.

The water is chlorinated both at Ogden and Coldwell reservoirs.

Routine tests are carried out by the Water Engineer to note the purity of the supply, and in addition samples are submitted at regular intervals for complete analysis and examination.

There was no curtailment of the supply during 1939.

14 rows of houses were dealt with during the year to replace old joint service pipes by new mains with separate service pipes to each house. Since the inception of this scheme 407 rows of houses have been dealt with.

#### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There has been no change during the year.

Nature of drainage of district, water carriage; situation of Sewage Works, Linedred; mode of delivery of sewage at Works, high level gravitating sewer. (Sewage from low-lying district of Lomeshaye is carried by a low-level sewer which is emptied into the high level sewer by means of automatic ejectors at the Works)

Treatment .....	Biological
Dry weather flow .....	1,750,000 gallons per day
Detritus tanks, total capacity .....	44,754 gallons
Storm tanks, total capacity .....	448,319 gallons
Percolating Filters, total capacity .....	25,831 cubic yards
Sedimentation tanks, total capacity .....	1,036,888 gallons
Humus tanks, total capacity .....	1,263,000 gallons

No area is without a drainage system. Drain-testing, flushing, etc., is carried out by the Corporation staff when necessary.

#### RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The provisions of the Rivers Pollution Acts are administered by the Ribble Joint Committee.

#### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

No. of Privy Middens (in town) .....	1
No. of Pail Closets .....	46



No. of Fresh Water Closets .....	4,743
No. of Waste Water Closets .....	7,964
No. of Dry Ashpits, excluding Middens .....	20
No. of Portable Receptacles for Refuse .....	12,316
Conversions during the year:—	
No. of Privies or Privy Middens (on outskirts of town) converted to Fresh Water Closets .....	Nil
No. of Pail Closets to Fresh Water Closets .....	Nil
No. of Waste Water Closets to Fresh Water Closets .....	95
No. of Houses at which Portable Ashbins have been substituted for Ashpits .....	Nil

In all new property Fresh Water Closet accommodation and Portable Ashbins are now being provided.

#### PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The removal and disposal of house and shop refuse, and street scavenging is carried out by the Cleansing Department under the control of the Director of Public Cleansing, who has kindly supplied me with the following particulars relative to the work of the Department.

Street scavenging is carried out by Motor sweepers, which combine both sweeping and picking up the refuse. There are a few orderlies also engaged for the collection of paper, etc., from the footpaths, whilst a vacuum gully cleanser is used for emptying the street gullies.

All house refuse is incinerated after having the cinders, fine dust and unburnable material extracted therefrom. No crude refuse is tipped. The clinkers from the furnaces, the fine dust, pots and glass are all disposed of at the Reedyford Tip.

Trade refuse of all descriptions is fed by hand direct on to the conveyor belt leading to two furnaces, which are capable of burning some 35 tons per day of eight hours. The plant does not function at night or week-ends.

Weight of refuse received for disposal .....	7,976 tons
Weight of refuse collected by own vehicles .....	7,475 tons
Weight of ashbin refuse removed .....	5,894 tons
Weight of trade refuse removed .....	1,041 tons
Weight of garbage removed .....	397 tons
No. of 10,000 sq. yards of streets swept (machines)	2,640
No. of gullies cleansed by mechanical gully cleanser	16,400
No. of applications received for opening drains, etc.	590

## SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING 1939.

A total of 3,284 premises have been visited during the year.

In the course of the inspections 156 nuisances were discovered, and at the end of the year 153 had been abated.

In many cases verbal notice was sufficient to have the matter dealt with but 45 informal and 1 legal notice were served during the year.

No legal proceedings were instituted.

Details of the inspections and results were :—

No. of complaints of nuisances received and investigated	94
„ premises in general inspected or visited .....	1,703
„ inspections—Stables .....	65
„ „ Licensed Premises .....	33
„ „ Offensive Trades .....	Nil
„ „ Slaughter Houses .....	1,037
„ „ Bakehouses .....	150
„ „ Re Water Supply .....	20
„ „ Meat Stalls .....	167
„ „ Workshops .....	110
„ „ Factories .....	133
„ „ Dairies and Cowsheds .....	108
„ „ Housing .....	717
„ „ Caravans .....	4
„ visits—infectious diseases and contacts .....	63
„ structural defects found .....	49
„ drainage defects found .....	28
„ lack of cleanliness found .....	22
„ offensive accumulations found .....	13
„ defective waste-pipes found .....	3
„ defective waste water closets .....	10
„ defective water closets .....	31
„ defective drains found .....	7
„ Verbal Notices given .....	81
„ Informal Notices sent .....	45
„ Informal and Verbal Notices complied with .....	124
„ Legal Notices sent .....	1
„ Legal Notices complied with .....	1
„ Legal proceedings ..	Nil
„ Smoke observations .....	90
„ insufficient W.C. accommodation .....	Nil

## SHOPS AND OFFICES.

The inspection of shops is carried out by the Market Superintendent, who is also appointed as Shops Inspector for the Borough. In matters relating to sanitary conveniences, co-ordination in the work exists between the Shops Inspector and the Sanitary Inspectors.

## CAMPING SITES.

There are no camping sites within the Borough, and no application for a licence has been made to the Local Authority during the year.

## SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.

Number of smoke observations taken during the year .....	90
Number of chimneys concerned .....	27
Time limit—5 minutes in 30 minutes.	
Number of times limit was exceeded .....	Nil
Legal proceedings .....	Nil

The total time the chimneys were under observation was 45 hours, and during this period the total amount of smoke emitted was:—

	hrs.	mins.	secs.
Black smoke .....	0	59	5
Moderate smoke .....	11	38	5
Light smoke .....	20	6	5
Clear .....	12	16	45

Each observation was for 30 minutes and the average result per observation was:

Black smoke .....	0.66 minutes
Moderate smoke .....	7.76 „
Light smoke .....	13 40 „
Clear .....	8.18 „

## SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

Within the Borough there is one Public Bath containing male and female swimming pools, and one Open Air Swimming Pool. These are both owned by, and under the control of the Corporation.

Filtration and water purification plants are installed both at the public baths and at the open air swimming pool,



## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Infested houses are treated by fumigation and by spraying with one of the special insecticides recommended for this particular purpose. 33 houses were dealt with in this manner during the year. In addition 5 houses were treated with 2% Hydrogen Cyanide for the eradication of bugs, but this was done under private arrangements made between the owners of the houses and the firm undertaking the fumigation.

## SCHOOLS.

The sanitary condition of the schools in the Borough on the whole remains satisfactory. All are supplied with town's water. No closure of a school has been necessary during the year.

Number of Schools in Borough—Secondary .....	1
Senior .....	4
Junior Mixed .....	6
R.C. Mixed .....	3
Infants .....	9
Open Air .....	1
Nursery .....	1

## OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are no premises in Nelson used for business purposes necessitating the registration as an Offensive Trade.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Number of Factories with mechanical power .....	261
Number of Factories without mechanical power .....	75
Number of inspections	
(a) Factories with mechanical power ....	225
(b) Factories without mechanical power	170
Number of defects found during inspections.....	17
Number of defects notified by H.M. Inspector of Factories (included in above) .....	7
Nature of defects founds :—	
Defective drains .....	2
Defective Sanitary Accommodation .....	3
Unsuitable Sanitary Accommodation .....	5
Lack of Cleanliness .....	4
Insufficient Sanitary Accommodation .....	1
Insufficient heating .....	1
Other defects .....	1



Number of verbal notices given .....	11
Number of informal notices sent .....	6
Number of legal notices .....	Nil

#### COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There is no Common Lodging House in the Borough.

#### HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

There are no premises registered in Nelson as Houses let in Lodgings.

#### TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, ETC.

There are no Tent Dwellers in the Area. There are a few isolated Caravan Dwellers, but these are on the outskirts of the town and are generally of a temporary nature.

#### UNDERGROUND SLEEPING ROOMS.

There are no underground sleeping rooms in the Borough.

#### CANAL BOATS ACT.

The Council are exempt from the administration of the Canal Boats Act, owing to the short length of canal within the boundaries.

#### RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 AND 1928.

There are no premises in the district in which Rag Flock is manufactured or used.

### 4.—HOUSING.

#### STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total [including numbers given separately under (b)]	34
1. By the Local Authority .....	25
2. By other Local Authorities .....	None
3. By other bodies or persons .....	9
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:	
1. By the Local Authority (Slum Clearance) .....	25
2. By other bodies or persons .....	None

#### HOUSING CONDITIONS.

Housing conditions generally remain the same as in the previous year. The elimination of the older type of houses under Clearance Orders, and the building of new houses under

the Housing and Town Planning Schemes during recent years has raised the general standard of the houses taking the Borough as a whole.

During the course of inspections, housing defects found are generally of a minor nature and due mainly to lack of repairs.

Informal action has resulted in such defects being remedied.

Housing conditions do not seem to have been affected by the changed conditions during the year under review. There have been many removals both into and out of the town, as well as from house to house within the town, but the number of empty houses did not appear to be greatly affected thereby.

In the Corporation Housing Schemes, one scheme was completed by the erection of 4 houses, whilst a further scheme, comprising 21 houses, has been commenced and completed during the year.

The total number of houses erected by the Local Authority under their Housing Schemes is now 1,175.

#### OVERCROWDING.

The amount of overcrowding in the town is very small. Isolated cases that were brought to my notice were dealt with by voluntary removals. This was facilitated by the empty houses available. The change of conditions in the closing months of the year made it impracticable to continue the sequence of the records showing the number of inhabitants of each individual house in the Borough.

#### CLEARANCE AND IMPROVEMENT AREAS.

No reports or recommendations have been made during the year. Demolition of five small clearance areas previously dealt with, and comprising a total of 29 houses, has been completed.

### **5.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.**

#### MILK SUPPLY.

Changes in the personnel of the dairymen and cow-keepers occur from time to time, and the register is amended accordingly.

At the end of the year there were on the register :—

Cowkeepers not retailing milk in Nelson .....	3
Cowkeepers selling milk wholesale .....	4
Cowkeepers and purveyors of milk (resident) .....	21
Cowkeepers and purveyors of milk (non-resident) .....	41
Milk purveyors only .....	17

All farm premises are subject to routine inspection by the Veterinary Inspector, and by the Sanitary Inspectors.

Examination of the dairy herds which was previously carried out by the Local Authority's Veterinary Inspector, is now carried out by a Veterinary Inspector appointed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

There is only one farm within the Borough at which designated milk is produced. The milk, Certified T. T., is sold wholesale.

In the surrounding districts there are premises at which Certified T. T. or Accredited milk is produced and which is sold retail within the Borough.

Licences for the production of this milk are issued by the Lancashire County Council.

There are no pasteurising plants within the Borough, but this type of milk is sold to a slight extent in the Town.

Minor alterations and repairs to cow-sheds have been carried out during the year, but no reconstruction has been undertaken.

Routine examination of the milk supply was carried out until stress of other duties, occasioned by the changing conditions, rendered this work sporadic rather than continuous.

180 informal samples of Milk were tested during the year and the following particulars show the results of the various tests carried out.

#### MILK FAT.

Number of samples tested .....	180
Number found to be of standard quality .....	170
Number found below standard quality .....	10
Average amount of Milk Fat per sample .....	3.39%



## MILK SOLIDS.

Number of samples tested .....	168
Number found of standard quality .....	168
Average amount of total solids per sample .....	12.04%
Average amount of solids not fat per sample .....	8.66%

## VISIBLE CLEANLINESS.

Number of samples tested .....	168
Number found satisfactory .....	158
Number found in which an improvement could be effected .....	10

## COLIFORM BACILLI.

Number of samples tested .....	168
Number of samples of designated milk showing coliform bacilli in 0.01 c.c. ....	Nil
Number of samples of non-designated milk showing coliform bacilli in 0.01 c.c. ....	32
Percentage of total samples with coliform bacilli present	19
Percentage of non-designated samples with coliform bacilli present .....	21.8

## TUBERCLE BACILLI.

Number of samples tested .....	43
Number found positive .....	5
Percentage of positive samples .....	11.6

When a positive result is shown, particulars are forwarded to the Lancashire County Council, who in turn inform the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Inspectors under the latter Authority undertake the investigations for the elimination of the infected animals.

## BACTERIAL COUNT.

No. of samples tested .....	168
No. of samples with less than 10,000 bacteria per c.c. ....	31
do. with over 10,000 but under 50,000 per c.c. ...	90
do. do. 50,000 do. 100,000 do. ...	24
do. do. 100,000 do. 150,000 do. ...	8
do. do. 150,000 do. 200,000 do. ...	7
do. do. 200,000 do. 300,000 do. ...	6
do. do. 300,000 do. 400,000 do. ...	1
do. do. 1,000,000 do. 2,000,000 do. ...	1



## METHYLENE BLUE REDUCTION TEST.

No. of samples tested .....	180
No. in which methylene blue was reduced in 2 hours.....	1
do. do. under $4\frac{1}{2}$ but over 2 hours	6
do. do. under $5\frac{1}{2}$ but over $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours	
(summer)	5
do. do. under $5\frac{1}{2}$ but over $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours	
(winter)	10
do. do. was not reduced in $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours	158
Number of samples which satisfied test .....	163
Percentage of samples satisfying test .....	90.6

COMBINED RESULT METHYLENE BLUE TEST AND  
BACTERIOLOGICAL TEST.

## A.—DESIGNATED MILK.

	No. of Bacteria per c.c.	Coliform Bacilli	
		absent in 0.01 c.c.	present in 0.01 c.c.
Methylene Blue not reduced in $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours.	Under 10,000.....	15	—
	Over 10,000 but under 50,000	5	—
	„ 100,000 „ „ 150,000	1	—

## B.—NON-DESIGNATED MILK.

Methylene Blue reduced under 2 hours.	Over 1 mil. but under 2 mil.	—	1
Methylene Blue reduced in $4\frac{1}{2}$ hs. but not in 2 hrs.	Over 100,000 but under 150,000	—	1
	„ 200,000 „ „ 300,000	—	5
Methylene Blue reduced in $5\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. but not in $4\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. (Winter months).	Over 150,000 but under 200,000	1	—
	„ 200,000 „ „ 300,000	1	—
	„ 300,000 „ „ 400,000	—	1
Methylene Blue reduced in $5\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. but not in $4\frac{1}{2}$ hrs. (Summer months).	Over 50,000 but under 100,000	1	—
	„ 100,000 „ „ 150,000	1	—
	„ 150,000 „ „ 200,000	2	1
Methylene Blue not reduced in $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours.	Under 10,000.....	15	1
	Over 10,000 but under 50,000	75	10
	„ 50,000 „ „ 100,000	14	9
	„ 100,000 „ „ 150,000	4	1
	„ 150,000 „ „ 200,000	1	2

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Routine inspection of slaughter-houses was undertaken up to the time of the change in the condition of slaughtering.

The inspection of Shops, Stall, Vehicles, and premises where food is prepared has been continuous throughout the year.

There are 11 licensed slaughter-houses in the Borough.

The following list shows the amount of food which has been condemned and surrendered as unfit for human consumption during 1939.

Tubercular carcasses and parts :—

11 complete bovine carcasses, 8 forequarters, and 1 hind quarter .....	96 $\frac{1}{4}$ cwts.
2 bovine heads .....	77 lbs.
4 bovine livers .....	51 lbs.
1 carcase of pig .....	130 lbs.
58 pigs' heads .....	769 lbs.
7 pigs' livers .....	26 lbs.
23 pigs' plucks .....	168 lbs.

Diseased, unsound or unwholesome meat other than above :—

2 bovine hind quarters .....	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwts.
Beef .....	3 lbs.
Veal .....	75 lbs.
21 bovine livers .....	234 lbs.
2 cows' udders .....	24 lbs.
1 carcase of pig .....	88 lbs.
8 pigs' livers .....	34 lbs.
2 carcasses of sheep .....	100 lbs.
5 sheeps' livers .....	20 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
1 sheep's pluck .....	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.

Other foodstuffs :—

Blackberries .....	84 baskets
Cauliflowers .....	17 crates
Halibut .....	33 lbs.
Whiting .....	84 lbs.

Tinned goods :

Apples (5 lbs.) .....	1 tin
-----------------------	-------

There have been no legal proceedings during the year.

No action has been necessary regarding food poisoning. For diagnostic purposes a sample of food was submitted for examination following a report of isolated cases of gastro enteritis, but the tests gave a negative result.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

Mr. Superintendent Pickering has kindly supplied me with the following list of samples taken by the Police under the Food and Drugs Acts. These were submitted for analysis to he

County Analyst. The reports state that with the exception of one sample of milk the rest of the samples were all genuine. The one particular sample of milk showed a deficiency of 20% of milk fat. Proceedings were however not taken in this case, but a letter was sent to the vendor drawing his attention to the deficiency.

Milk .....	47
Sago .....	2
Lemon Cheese .....	1
Meat Paste .....	1
Syrup .....	1
Tea .....	5
Arrowroot .....	1
Butter .....	2
Cheese .....	3
Jam .....	1
Sugar .....	2
Peas (canned) .....	2
Honey .....	2
Flour .....	1
Olive Oil .....	1
Marmalade .....	1
Gravy Browning .....	1
Coffee .....	2
Rice .....	1
Mustard .....	1
Oatmeal .....	1
Fruit Salad (Canned) .....	1
Cocoa .....	1
Barley .....	1
Lard .....	1
Margarine .....	1
Sweets .....	1

## 6.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Hospital accommodation is now provided at the Joint Hospital Board's Sanatorium, Marsden Road, Burnley, for the general infectious diseases, and at the Joint Hospital Board's Sanatorium at Crown Point, Burnley, for Small-pox.



92 notifications were received during the year, and of these 34 were notifications of tubercular disease. Only 7 notifications were received under the new regulations making measles and whooping cough notifiable, and these were all cases of whooping cough.

20 cases of pneumonia were notified, and this leaves only 31 notifications of the more general infectious diseases, including scarlet fever, diphtheria, and erysipelas.

5 of the cases notified were removed to hospital.

Only 4 cases of diphtheria were reported and there was no case of cerebro spinal fever, hence there is no data on which to base an opinion as to the clinical type or spread of these particular diseases.

No local action has been taken in regard to the use of measles serum for prophylaxis or attenuation, nor are there any existing facilities for the typing of pneumococci and for the provision of appropriate type sera.

A supply of diphtheria anti-toxin in bulbs of 8,000 units is kept on hand at the Police Station, and is available for use by the Medical Practitioners at any time.

Measles and whooping cough are the only additions to the notifiable diseases. German measles, chicken-pox, and diarrhoea (under 2 years) are not notifiable in Nelson.

A summary of the pathological and bacteriological examinations carried out during the year is :—

Throat swabs .....	116
Sputum .....	44
Pus smears .....	76
Eye discharges .....	2
Blood smears .....	38
Blood (Widal) .....	4
Urine .....	166
Cerebro Spinal fluid .....	4
Animal tissues, etc. ....	57
Pathological examinations .....	31
Human milk .....	3
Faeces .....	6

Milk deposits .....	41
Milk for bacterial contents .....	168
Milk for T. B. ....	43
Other specimens .....	15

No action has been taken to provide artificial immunisation against either diphtheria or scarlet fever, nor is immunisation material supplied free to the local practitioners.

### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS, NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1939.

DISEASE.	Number of Cases Notified.														Total cases removed to Hospital from Dist.
	Ttl. Cses At all ages	At Ages — Years.													
		Un-der 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over		
Scarlet Fever .....	10	...	...	...	1	...	7	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	
Diphtheria .....	4	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) .....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	
Whooping Cough .....	7	...	1	...	1	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Pneumonia .....	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	3	8	3	...	
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	
Erysipelas .....	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	6	5	...	
Totals.....	58	...	1	...	2	3	11	3	5	5	6	14	8	5	

### NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Pemphigus .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Infective Parotitis.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Totals.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

For comparison, the number of cases notified in 1939, the number notified in 1938, and the average number of notifications for the previous 10 years is shown in the following table.

Disease.	Number notified in 1939	Number notified in 1938	Average number of notifications for the 10 years 1929 to 1938
Smallpox .....	—	—	—
Scarlet fever .....	10	14	77.2
Enteric fever .....	1	—	0.6
Puerperal fever .....	—	—	0.4
Puerperal pyrexia .....	2	1	2.4
Diphtheria .....	4	34	22.2
Erysipelas .....	14	14	14.3
Ophthalmia neonatorum .....	—	—	2.3
Acute poliomyelitis .....	—	—	0.1
Polio encephalitis .....	—	—	0.3
Encephalitis lethargica .....	—	—	0.7
Cerebro spinal meningitis ...	—	—	0.2
Pneumonia .....	20	32	32.7
Malaria .....	—	—	—
Dysentery .....	—	—	—
Measles .....	—	—	—
Whooping Cough .....	7	—	—
Pulmonary tuberculosis .....	16	19	25.8
Non-pulmonary tuberculosis	18	26	18.5
	—	—	—
Totals .....	92	140	197.0

#### DISINFECTION.

Following infectious disease 32 rooms were disinfected during the year. The method used is by means of formalin spray and vapour. Articles of bedding and clothing are disinfected by means of a steam disinfecter. This apparatus is situated at the Destructor Works, Charles Street. During the year a total of 432 rooms were fumigated for various purposes, and 141 articles of wearing apparel, 1,116 articles of bedding, 49 books, and 27 miscellaneous articles were disinfected.



## TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and mortality during 1939.

Age Period, Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
5—10	1	—	2	3	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	1	—	2	1	2	—	—
20—25	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—
25—35	3	2	1	2	3	—	—	—
35—45	4	2	—	1	2	2	1	—
45—55	1	—	—	—	3	—	1	—
55—65	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals...	10	6	6	12	13	4	3	—
	16		18		17		3	

The number of deaths shown in the above table are subject to correction.

In all cases of death from Tuberculosis, a notification of the patient had been received and no action has been necessary for wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

Notification of Tuberculosis in this district can be considered efficient.

There is no evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from Tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district.

## PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS.

No action has been necessary under these Regulations with reference to tuberculous employees in the milk trade.

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 62.

No action has been necessary under this section relative to the removal to hospital of patients suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis and who are without proper and suitable home accommodation.

I am indebted to Dr. MacPhee, the Consultant Tuberculosis Officer for this area, for the following report of the work carried out in Nelson, dealing with Tuberculosis during 1939.

## PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS.

The Lancashire County Council Tuberculosis Dispensary is situated at 64, Carr Road, Nelson. It is, therefore, most conveniently placed for the Borough of Nelson, and is open for insured and non-insured persons alike.

The Consultant Tuberculosis Officer is in attendance on Tuesday afternoons at 12-30 o'clock, and on Friday mornings by appointment.

## NOTIFICATIONS OF PERSONS SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS IN THE BOROUGH OF NELSON IN 1939.

	Pulmonary.	Non-pulmonary.	Total.
Form " A " (new cases) .....	16	18	34
Number of new patients examined at the Dispensary ...			147
Number of new patients examined at their homes .....			15
Total .....			162

Of the total of 162 patients, 41 were found to be suffering from Tuberculosis in one form or another, and 121 were discharged after varying periods of observation, as non-tuberculous.

No. of re-examinations of " old cases " .....	498
No. of patients who received treatment in Sanatoria (" early cases ") .....	11
No. of patients who received treatment in Pulmonary Hospitals (advanced cases) .....	6
No. of patients who received treatment in General and Special Hospitals (surgical cases) .....	15
No. of patients who received special treatment (Artificial Pneumothorax 2) .....	3
No. of X-ray examinations made .....	196
Details are appended of the work in Nelson of the Tuberculosis Health Visitor, Nurse H. M. Alcock :—	
No. of primary visits to patients .....	34
No. of " following-up " visits to patients .....	900
Total .....	934

During 1939 the following number of cases were written off as recovered.

Pulmonary.	Non-pulmonary.	Total.
2	8	10

## ULTRA-VIOLET RADIATION TREATMENT.

Two Carbon-arc Lamps, one Jesionek Mercury Vapour Lamp, and one Kromayer Mercury Vapour Lamp, are installed at 64 Carr Road, Nelson, for the treatment of suitable cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis, including lupus, and during the year ended 31st December, 1939, 29 patients from Nelson have received treatment.

**B. MACPHEE,**

Consultant Tuberculosis Officer.

High Lea, Whalley Road,  
Accrington.

6th August, 1940.

**7.—MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.**

This work is carried out by the Local Authority under the supervision of the Medical Officer of Health. One part-time and two whole-time Health Visitors are employed, the work of the part-time nurse being divided between the Infant Welfare Service and the School Medical Service.

The following figures refer to the work carried out under your Maternity and Child Welfare Service. This comprises the work of the Health Visitors, the attendance at the Infant Welfare Centre and the consultations thereat, the use of the Maternity Home and the attendance at the Orthopædic Clinic so far as it affects pre-school children.

No. of births in area notified during the year under the Notification of Births Act, 1907:—

Live Births .....	263
Still Births .....	9
Total .....	272
Notified by Midwives (including Maternity Home) ...	250
Notified by Doctors and Parents .....	22
No. of Confinements Primipara .....	131
No. of Confinements Multipara .....	139
Cases of Twin Births notified .....	2
Percentage of multiple births .....	.74
No. of illegitimate births notified .....	10
Percentage of illegitimate births to total births notified ...	3.7
Percentage of still births to total births notified .....	3.3
Failure to notify birth .....	Nil



Total number of cases in which services of Consultant were requested .....	9
No. of cases in which nursing assistance was requested ...	Nil
No. of births by Cæsarean Section .....	6
Number of visits paid during the year by the Health Visitors :—	
To expectant mothers—First visits .....	111
Total visits .....	357
To children under 1 year of age—First visits .....	268
Total visits .....	3452
To children between the age of 1 and 5 years—	
Number visited ....	1116
Total visits .....	3450
Average number of visits per infant .....	12.8
Average number of visits per child .....	3.1
Average number of visits per mother .....	3.2
Number of ineffectual calls .....	793
Number of special visits made for assistance in Ophthalmia cases .....	Nil
Number of special visits made for nursing assistance in other cases .....	412
Number of cases attended by Registered Midwives practising in the area during the year .....	75
County Council Midwives .....	27
Midwives at the Maternity Home .....	48
Number of cases attended by Registered Midwives as Maternity Nurses at the Maternity Home .....	110
Number of cases attended by other Midwives on the register but not practising as Midwives and acting as Maternity Nurses .....	105
Number of confinements attended by Medical Practitioners	224
Percentage attended by Medical Practitioners .....	82.3

#### FIRST METHOD OF FEEDING INFANTS BORN DURING YEAR.

Breast.	Bottle.	Breast and Bottle.	Spoon.	Not fed.
76.4%	10.3%	7.3%	3.8%	2.2%

#### INFANT WELFARE CENTRE.

The Infant Welfare Centre is situated at No. 9, Carr Road, Nelson, and is open on Wednesday afternoons from 2-0 p.m.

Number of meetings held .....	46
Total number of attending infants .....	307
Total number of attending children .....	435
Total number of attending expectant mothers .....	61
Total number of attendances :—Infants .....	1202
Children .....	1025
Expectant Mothers .....	121
Average attendance per session—	
Infants .....	26.1
Children .....	22.3
Expectant Mothers .....	2.6
Average number of attendances per	
Infant .....	3.9
Child .....	2.3
Mother .....	2.0

A summary of the attendances of infants and expectant mothers from the various wards of the Borough gives the following figures :—

Bradley	Central	Clover Hill	Marsden	Netherfield
110	58	65	75	130
Southfield	Walverden	Whitefield	Out of Borough	
119	131	109	8	

Number of Infants for whom consultations were requested	217
Number of Children for whom consultations were requested	318
Number of Consultations for :—Infants .....	430
Children .....	614
Ante-natal Mothers .....	28
Total .....	1072

#### MATERNITY HOME.

- The Maternity Home is situated in Netherfield Road, and with the present accomodation, was opened on May 28th, 1921.

The fee for admission to the Home is £2-2-0 per week for residents and £3-3-0 per week for non-residents.

In necessitous cases, resident in Nelson, patients are admitted free or at a reduced fee,

Number of patients admitted per year from 1921 :—

1921 (7 months) .....	28
1922 .....	66
1923 .....	148
1924 .....	199
1925 (11 months) .....	204
1926 .....	236
1927 .....	189
1928 .....	238
1929 .....	222
1930 .....	244
1931 .....	210
1932 .....	219
1933 .....	191
1934 .....	153
1935 .....	171
1936 .....	168
1937 .....	168
1938 .....	176
1939 .....	127

Total number of patients admitted to the Home from May,  
1931, to 31st December, 1939 ..... 3357

Particulars of the work carried out at the Home during  
1939 are :—

Number of patients admitted during the year .....	127
Number of patients who agreed to pay full fee .....	86
,,       ,,       applied for a reduction of the fee .....	41
,,       ,,       were admitted at a reduced fee...	22
,,       ,,       were admitted free .....	16
Number of patients admitted who were not residents of the Borough .....	14
Number of Births for the year (alive) .....	122
(still-born) .....	3
Number of Twin Births .....	1 case
Number of abortions .....	Nil
Number of patients for whom the services of the Con- sultant Practitioner were required .....	4
Average number of patients in residence per day through- out the year .....	5.1
Total number of patient days .....	1873



The following is a list of admissions to the Home per month for the year :—

Month.	Number admitted.	Number of Alive.	Births Dead.	Number of Infants.	Deaths Mothers.
January .....	11	11	—	—	—
February .....	16	14	2	—	—
March .....	8	7	—	—	—
April .....	14	15	—	1	—
May .....	12	11	—	1	—
June .....	10	9	—	—	—
July .....	10	10	—	1	—
August .....	10	10	—	—	—
September .....	9	9	—	1	—
October .....	11	11	—	—	—
November .....	9	9	—	—	—
December .....	7	6	1	—	—
Totals .....	127	122	3	4	—

Particulars regarding the four deaths which have occurred in the Home during the year are :—

Date of death.	Age.	Cause of death.
April 1st	19 hours	Prematurity.
May 21st	4 hours	Heart Failure, Congenital Heart Disease, Enlargement of Liver.
July 31st	6 hours	Congenital Heart Disease, Premature Birth.
Sept. 16th	1 day	Prematurity.

The following table gives the percentage of births occurring in the Maternity Home :—

Number of patients admitted to Maternity Home .....	127
Number of non-residents included in above .....	14
Percentage of total number .....	11.0%
Percentage of total number in 1938 .....	9.7%
Total births notified in Nelson including Still-Births .....	272
Total number of Births in Maternity Home .....	125
Percentage of births in Maternity Home .....	46.0%
Percentage of births in Maternity Home in 1938 .....	56.4%

Excluding the number of births relating to out of Borough patients :—

Number of births in Maternity Home .....	112
Percentage of births in Maternity Home .....	43.2%
Percentage of births in Maternity Home in 1938 .....	52.4%

## ANTE-NATAL CLINIC.

The Ante-Natal Clinic is held twice weekly at the Infant Welfare Centre, 9, Carr Road, one being an afternoon session and the other an evening session, the latter to give opportunity for working mothers to attend. The Clinic is conducted by the Matron of the Maternity Home, and all applicants for admission to the Home are advised to attend for examination.

Any abnormal condition found is reported to the Medical Officer of Health and the patient advised to consult her own medical practitioner. Systematic examination of urine is carried out.

Attendance at the Clinic is not confined to patients intending to enter the Home. An agreement has been made whereby the State Midwives appointed for this Area by the Lancashire County Council, can arrange for their patients to attend the Ante-Natal Clinic for examination.

The Obstetric Consultant attends the Ante-Natal Clinic once monthly both for general examination and also for consultation regarding any abnormal condition arising during pregnancy.

The Clinic is also available to the Local Medical Practitioners if they themselves wish to make examination of any ante-natal patients on whom they will eventually have to attend.

Ante-natal consultations are also held at the weekly session of the Infant Welfare Centre, and the following particulars of the administration of the Ante-natal Clinic during 1939 gives inclusive figures :—

No. of Ante-natal mothers who attended for consultations	158
„ attendances by Ante-natal mothers .....	1184
„ Ante-natal mothers found to require treatment ...	46
„ Ante-natal mothers advised to obtain medical advice (included in the above) .....	42
„ Ante-natal mothers recommended for X-ray treatment (included in the above) .....	3
„ Ante-natal mothers advised to obtain dental treatment (included in the above) .....	21
„ Ante-natal mothers who were admitted to the Home for special treatment following medical advice	9
„ Ante-natal mothers for whom Hospital treatment was advised .....	4
„ Ante-natal mothers advised special home treatment	37

## DENTAL SCHEME.

Following consultations at the Ante-natal Clinic, 21 Ante-natal mothers were advised to obtain dental treatment. Of these only 4 made application for treatment under the Authority's scheme. Particulars of these 4 cases are:—

Unable to receive treatment .....	1 case
Report given but no treatment carried out .....	1 case
Extractions only (free treatment) .....	1 case
Extractions and Dentures (free treatment) .....	1 case

## HOME HELPS.

Number of applications for Home Help .....	6
Number in which Home Help was provided .....	5
Number receiving Home Help free .....	4
Number receiving Home Help at half cost .....	1

## MILK FOR INFANTS.

The Supply of Milk to mothers and infants in necessitous cases has been continuous throughout the year under the Local Authority's Scheme. The Government's scheme in conjunction with the Milk Marketing Board was under consideration but was not put into operation during 1939. During the year 6,012 gallons of liquid milk have been provided by the Council, and in addition 2,531 lbs. of dried milk have been sold at cost price.

No. in receipt of free milk 1st January, 1939 .....	108
„ „ 31st December, 1939 .....	102
„ „ during the year .....	195
Daily supply of milk at 1st January, 1939 .....	124 pints
„ „ at 31st December, 1939 .....	128 pints

## ORTHOPÆDIC CLINIC.

The Orthopædic Clinic is held weekly on Fridays at the School Clinic in Carr Road. The scheme is run in conjunction with the Local Education Committee, the Lancashire County Council and the Colne Local Authority.

The following figures refer to the children who have been in attendance following a recommendation from the Infant Welfare Centre.



No. of times Clinic was open during the year .....	35
„ infants who attended during the year .....	47
„ attendances made by these infants .....	120
„ cases on the books at 31st December, 1938 .....	31
„ new cases admitted during the year .....	24
„ cases discharged during the year .....	16
„ cases on the books at 31st December, 1939 .....	39
„ cases transferred from Infant Welfare Services to School Medical Services (included in number discharged shown above) .....	7
„ infants under treatment at Biddulph at 31st December, 1938 .....	Nil
„ infants sent to Biddulph Hospital during the year ...	Nil
„ infants under treatment at Biddulph at 31st December, 1939 .....	Nil

The defects necessitating orthopædic treatment in the 55 cases on the books during the year are :—

Defects of the Spine .....	1
Defects of the Lower Limbs .....	44
General defect or deformity which may be due to rickets, infantile paralysis, etc. ....	10

#### PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

Under the Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, a Consultant is appointed, Laboratory facilities are available, Hospital provision provided, and an arrangement with the Local District Nursing Association provides for nursing assistance if requested.

Two cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified during the year. In one case, none of the above facilities were requested. In the second case, the Consultant was called in, and the patient was removed to Hospital. This case proved fatal.

#### OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Hospital treatment is available when necessary for cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, and nursing assistance provided when necessary, by an arrangement with the Local District Nursing Association.

No case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was notified during the year.

## APPENDIX

## VITAL STATISTICS.

Population estimated for purpose of Birth Rate .....	34290
,,          ,,          ,,          ,,          of Death Rate .....	34390
Number of Live Births.	
(a) For estimation of Birth Rate—	
Legitimate Males .....	133
,,          Females ...	131
Illegitimate Males .....	8
,,          Females ...	8
Total .....	280
Live Birth Rate per 1000 of population .....	8.1
,,    ,,    ,,    ,,    ,,    ,,    ,,    Legitimate .....	7.6
,,    ,,    ,,    ,,    ,,    ,,    ,,    Illegitimate .....	0.5
Number of Still Births (all legitimate)—Males .....	9
Females ..	4
Total .....	13
Still Birth Rate per 1000 of Population .....	0.4
Total Birth Rate (Live and Still Births) per 1000 of Population .....	8.5
Number of Deaths of Infants under 1 year—	
Legitimate Males .....	13
,,          Females ...	5
Illegitimate Males .....	2
,,          Females ...	2
Total .....	22
Number of Births for estimation of Infantile Mortality Rate .....	282
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births .....	78
Number of Maternal Deaths .....	3
Maternal Mortality per 1000 Live Births .....	10.63
Maternity Mortality per 1000 Total (Live and Still) Births .....	10.17
Total Number of Deaths—Males .....	286
Females .....	239
<b>Total</b> .....	525
Crude Death Rate per 1000 of Population .....	15.2
Adjusted Death Rate (Comparability factor 1.07) .....	16.2

Analysis of Deaths according to causes and Death Rates from  
these causes.

COMPARATIVE TABLE (I).

Cause of Death		M.	F.	Total	Death Rate
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers .....	...	...	...	...
2	Measles .....	...	...	...	...
3	Scarlet Fever .....	...	...	...	...
4	Whooping Cough .....	1	...	1	0·029
5	Diphtheria .....	...	1	1	0·029
6	Influenza .....	3	7	10	0·290
7	Encephalitis Lethargica .....	2	...	2	0·058
8	Cerebro Spinal Fever .....	...	...	...	...
9	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	13	4	17	0·494
10	Other Tuberculous Diseases .....	3	...	3	0·087
11	Syphilis .....	...	...	...	...
12	General Paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis .....	3	...	3	0·087
13	Cancer, Malignant Disease .....	27	26	53	1·541
14	Diabetes .....	4	9	13	0·378
15	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc. ....	18	22	40	1·163
16	Heart Disease .....	77	69	146	4·245
17	Aneurysm .....	2	1	3	0·087
18	Other Circulatory Diseases .....	32	17	49	1·424
19	Bronchitis .....	2	6	8	0·232
20	Pneumonia (all forms) .....	12	7	19	0·552
21	Other Respiratory Diseases .....	1	1	2	0·058
22	Peptic Ulcer .....	5	1	6	0·174
23	Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years) .....	1	...	1	0·029
24	Appendicitis .....	2	...	2	0·058
25	Cirrhosis of Liver .....	1	...	1	0·029
26	Other diseases of Liver, etc. ....	2	4	6	0·174
27	Other Digestive Diseases .....	3	4	7	0·203
28	Acute and Chronic Nephritis .....	9	9	18	0·523
29	Puerperal Sepsis .....	...	1	1	0·029
30	Other Puerperal Causes .....	...	2	2	0·058
31	Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, &c. ....	12	4	16	0·465
32	Senility .....	9	10	19	0·552
33	Suicide .....	8	3	11	0·320
34	Other Violence .....	10	12	22	0·639
35	Other defined diseases .....	24	17	41	1·192
36	Causes ill-defined or unknown .....	...	1	1	0·029
37	Diarrhoc (2 years and over) .....	...	1	1	0·029
	Included under No. 35 :—				
	Smallpox .....	...	...	...	...
	Poliomyelitis .....	...	...	...	...
	Polioencephalitis .....	...	...	...	...
	Totals.....	286	239	525	15·2

Excess of Deaths over Births ..... 245



COMPARATIVE TABLE (II).

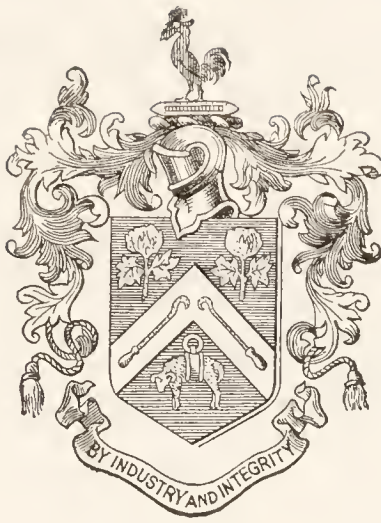
	England and Wales.	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns. Resident Population of 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census.	London Adminis- trative County.	Nelson.
RATES PER 1000 OF POPULATION.					
Births.					
Live Births.....	15.0	14.8	15.6	12.3	8.1
Still Births .....	0.59	0.59	0.57	0.44	0.46
Deaths					
All Causes .....	12.1	12.0	11.2	11.9	15.2
Typhoid & Paratyphoid.	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox .....	—	—	—	—	—
Measles .....	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever .....	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough .....	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.03
Diphtheria .....	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.02	0.03
Influenza .....	0.21	0.19	0.20	0.18	0.29
Notifications.					
Smallpox .....	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	1.89	1.96	1.78	1.53	0.29
Diphtheria .....	1.14	1.21	1.16	0.98	0.12
Enteric .....	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03
Erysipelas .....	0.34	0.40	0.31	0.37	0.41
Pneumonia .....	1.02	1.21	0.89	0.99	0.58

COMPARATIVE TABLE (III).

	England and Wales.	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns. Resident Population of 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census.	London Adminis- trative County.	Nelson.
RATES PER 1000 LIVE BIRTHS.					
Deaths under 1 year of age .....	50	53	40	48	78
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis, under 2 years of age .....	4.6	6.3	3.0	8.2	3.5
Maternal Mortality :—					
Puerperal Sepsis .....	0.77				3.54
Others .....	2.16				7.09
Total .....	2.93				10.63
RATES PER 1000 TOTAL BIRTHS (LIVE AND STILL).					
Maternal Mortality :—					
Puerperal Sepsis .....	0.74				3.39
Others .....	2.08				6.78
Total .....	2.82				10.17
Notifications.					
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	14.35	17.26	12.99	3.31	6.78
Puerperal Fever .....				14.22	

## INCREASE OR DECREASE ON PREVIOUS YEAR.

	England and Wales.	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns. Resident Population of 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census.	London Adminis- trative County.	Nelson.
Live BirthRate .....	-0.1	-0.2	+0.2	-1.1	-1.0
Still Birth Rate .....	-0.01	-0.06	-0.03	-0.04	-0.05
Death Rate.....	+0.5	+0.3	+0.2	+0.5	-0.4
Infantile Mortality Rate.	-3	-4	-11	-9	+23



Borough of Nelson.

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Annual Report  
of the  
School Medical Officer  
for 1939.

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R. G. MARKHAM, M.B., D.P.H.,  
School Medical Officer.



## BOROUGH OF NELSON

### School Medical Service Sub-Committee.

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ALDERMAN A. SMITH, J.P., C.C., Chairman.

THE MAYOR (ALDERMAN H. W. THROUP, J.P.).

ALDERMAN W. BANNISTER.

,, J. ROBINSON.

,, R. BLAND.

,, R. WINTERBOTTOM.

COUNCILLOR H. DEWHURST.

,, J. WIDDUP.

MRS. S. J. COOPER, J.P.

MR. J. HAYDOCK.

MR. W. J. THROUP, C.C.

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## Officers and Staff of the

### School Medical Service Department.

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School Medical Officer ..... R. G. MARKHAM, M.B., D.P.H.

Dentist ..... MR. THOMAS JACKSON, L.D.S.

Nurses ..... MRS. E. A. SAVILLE-SMITH, MISS L. P. SPARKS &  
MRS. A. H. FRANKLAND\* + .

Senior Clerk ..... A. WILDMAN\*.

Junior Clerk ..... J. W. TATTERSALL.

Director of Education ..... MR. W. H. SHEPHERD, B.A.

\* Part time. + Temporary.

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School Clinic, 11 Carr Road.

## List of Schools in the Borough.

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Secondary Day School ..... Oxford Road

### SENIOR.

	Accommodation.		Average No. on Rolls, December, 1939.
Bradley C. ....	320	...	265
Edge End C. ....	480	...	235
Walverden C. ....	480	...	273
Whitefield C. ....	320	...	204

### JUNIOR MIXED.

Bradshaw Street C. (A) .....	400	...	277
Bradshaw Street C. (B) .....	350	...	249
Great Marsden .....	264	...	292
Leeds Road C. of E. ....	300	...	265
Little Marsden .....	105	...	66
Lomeshaye C. ....	200	...	185

### R.C. MIXED.

Holy Saviour's .....	210	...	122
St. George's .....	88	...	68
St. Joseph's .....	210	...	107

### OPEN AIR.

Camp School .....	40	...	40
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### INFANTS.

Bradley C. ....	250	...	146
Bradshaw Street C. ....	350	...	161
Great Marsden .....	130	...	96
Holy Saviour's R.C. ....	95	...	34
Little Marsden .....	65	...	64
St. George's R.C. ....	92	...	31
St. Joseph's R.C. ....	150	...	29
Walverden C. ....	250	...	128
Whitefield C. ....	300	...	131

NELSON,

MAY, 1940.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Nelson Education Committee.**

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith submit a report on the work of the School Medical Services Department for the year ended 31st December, 1939.

In accordance with the Circular received from the Medical Branch of the Board of Education, an abridged report is presented, and I am submitting only a few of the essential figures pertaining to the various branches of the work. The Board recognise that interruption of normal routine work has been caused, and re-organisation necessary, due to abnormal conditions which have arisen during the year.

Up to the outbreak of hostilities routine work of the School Medical Services was carried out as in previous years. The coming of evacuated children necessitated changes, but at no time was the service suspended, it was in fact augmented. The services of the Clinic were available to the evacuees in the same respect as to the Nelson School Children, and when re-organisation of the schools was completed, a normal routine of the working of the School Medical Service was established, applicable to all children attending school.

There has been no outstanding health problems created by the billeting of school children in this Area. The experience gained has shown (a) the desirability of medical inspection immediately prior to evacuation, (b) discrimination in the selection of billets, and (c) special arrangements should be made for the accommodation of children suffering from defects, the effects of which would cause annoyance to many householders, were the children billeted upon them.

In common with other adjoining reception areas, the number of evacuees returning home has increased week by week until by the end of the year only a small proportion of the children were still resident in Nelson.

A brief survey of the year's work reveals two features worthy of mention. Firstly the number of children found at the routine inspections with a defect requiring treatment



shows a reduction on any previous year's results, and secondly, the relative freedom from illnesses of an infective nature which has been evident throughout the year. These features could be taken as an indication that the general health and stamina of the school children maintains a satisfactory standard.

Throughout the year co-ordination in the work by the staff of the Education Department, the Headmasters, Headmistresses, and Teachers, and also by the parents or guardians of the children has been excellent, and contributed greatly to a successful year's work.

I have to thank the Director of Education (Mr. W. H. Shepherd) for his valued assistance during the year, and also to record my appreciation of the services of all members of the staff of the School Medical Services Department, who have efficiently carried out all the various duties assigned to them under the changing conditions which have arisen during the year.

#### ROUTINE INSPECTIONS.

292 children in the entrant's group, 404 children in the intermediate group, and 340 children in the third age group, a total of 1,036 children, have been medically inspected during the routine inspections for the year.

The result of these inspections showed that 157 children had some form of defect which required treatment. This number represents 15.15% of the children inspected. The percentage requiring treatment for each group of children inspected were:—16.44% in the entrant's group, 16.88% in the intermediate group, and 12.35% in the third age group. In each group of children the number found with a defect requiring treatment shows a diminution on the number found in the previous year's inspections.

In all, 168 defects were found requiring treatment and a further 141 defects found which did not require treatment but required to be kept under observation.

#### SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.

1,061 special inspections have been made during the year. The majority of these inspections were carried out at the School Clinic. Comparative figures of the number of defects

found in ratio to the number of children examined are not applicable to these inspections as in most of the cases it was evidence of a defect which necessitated the medical inspection.

645 defects were found of which 626 required treatment, and 19 required to be kept under observation.

#### RE-INSPECTIONS.

1,284 re-inspections have been carried out. Each child found with a defect during routine or special inspections is subject to a later re-inspection to note the condition of the defect and the result of treatment. Included also as re-inspections are the periodic inspection of the children in attendance at the Open Air School. A summary of the result of these re-inspections shows that of 1,180 defects found in 1938, 804 had been cured, 281 were improved, and 95 were either unchanged or not seen. These figures represent 68.1% cured, 23.8% improved, and 8.1% unchanged.

#### FOLLOWING UP MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

As a result of following up the year's medical inspections, the School Nurses ascertained that out of 961 defects found during 1939, 66.6% had been cured, 26.0% were improved, thus leaving only 7.4% unchanged or not seen.

#### HOME VISITING.

During the year 587 homes have been visited by the School Nurses and 644 visits paid.

#### EXAMINATION OF CHILDREN AS REGARDS CLEANLINESS.

The School Nurses have paid 81 surprise visits to the schools. A total of 12,210 examinations have been made in respect of 3,936 individual children examined. A table is appended giving details of these examinations, and it is only necessary to add that the results shown are in the aggregate an improvement on previous years results.

During the course of the medical inspections, 4 cases of Scabies were found. These were treated at the School Clinic.

#### TREATMENT OF DEFECTS.

The School Clinic has been open on 280 days during the year with an average daily attendance of approximately 40.

As the nature of the work carried out at the clinic has been given in detail in previous reports, and no change has taken place during the year, I propose to give relative figures only for the purpose of this report.

1,584 defects have been treated during the year of which 306 were defects of the skin, 66 minor eye defects, 155 minor ear defects, 687 minor injuries, bruises, etc., 146 defects of the nose and throat, 58 orthopædic or postural defects, and 166 errors of refraction.

It has been ascertained by the Nurses that 1 defect of the skin, 3 minor eye defects, 2 minor ear defects, 28 defects of the nose and throat, 15 cases of defective vision, and 70 miscellaneous defects have received treatment privately and independently of the Authority's scheme. In the 28 defects of the nose and throat included above operative treatment was received.

At the beginning of the year there were 74 defects under treatment at the Clinic. During the year 1,618 new defects were admitted and 1,550 defects were discharged. This leaves 142 defects receiving treatment at the end of the year. Included in these figures are 84 defects pertaining to the school children who had been received into the town from an evacuated area.

151 cases of defective vision were found necessitating test for errors of refraction, and in 87 cases it was found necessary to prescribe spectacles. An analysis of the defects found in these latter 87 cases is:—

Hypermetropia .....	15
Hypermetropic Astigmatism .....	12
Hypermotropia and Hypermetropic Astigmatism ...	8
Myopia .....	35
Myopic Astigmatism .....	5
Myopia and Myopic Astigmatism .....	5
Other defects .....	7

In all 102 pairs of spectacles were supplied under the scheme of the Local Authority. The difference of 15 represents cases of repairs or renewals.



DEFECTIVE HEARING.

644 children have been tested by means of the Audiometer, and as a result 24 children were found to have definite defective hearing. Of these, 17 were defective in one ear only, and 7 defective in both ears.

A course of treatment was prescribed in each case, and further tests carried out after such treatment gave the following results.

Cause of Deafness.	Cured.		Improved.		No change.
Wax in ears .....	5	...	2	...	—
Catarrhal conditions .....	1	...	1	...	—
Otorrhœa .....	1	...	2	...	—
Otitis Media .....	—	...	—	...	—
Other conditions .....	4	...	5	...	3

DIASTOLISATION.

This form of treatment has been prescribed in the case of 65 defects found during the year. By the end of the year 32 defects had been cured and 33 were improved.

A summary of the results according to the nature of the defect is:—

Defect.	No. of Defects.		Cured.		Improved.
Nasal Catarrh .....	22	...	13	...	9
Nasal obstruction .....	10	...	4	...	6
Defective hearing .....	13	...	6	...	7
Adenoids .....	5	...	3	...	2
Highly arched Palate .....	2	...	—	...	2
Bronchitis and Asthma .....	5	...	2	...	3
Catarrhal Deafness .....	4	...	—	...	4
Pharyngitis .....	1	...	1	...	—
Immovable Palate .....	1	...	1	...	—
Enlarged Turbinates .....	2	...	2	...	—

ORTHOPÆDIC CLINIC.

The following details of the work of the Orthopædic Clinic refers only to Nelson children of school age.

Number of times Clinic has been open during the year ...	35
Total number of school children on the books at 31st December, 1938 .....	68
Total number of cases admitted during the year .....	15

Included in these are—New admissions .....	8
Transferred from Infant Welfare Centre .....	7
Number of cases discharged during the year .....	25
Number of cases on books at 31st December, 1939 .....	53
Number of children on books who did not attend during 1939 .....	20
Number of children in attendance during 1939 .....	58
Number of attendances made by these children .....	188
Average attendance per session .....	5.4
Average attendance per child for the year .....	3.3
Number of school children at Biddulph at 31st December, 1938 .....	Nil
Number of school children sent to Biddulph during the year .....	4
Number of school children discharged from Biddulph during the year .....	3
Number of school children at Biddulph at 31st December, 1939 .....	1

The following table shows in a degree the location of the defects found in the children who have been on the register during the year.

Defect or deformity of the spine .....	8
Defect or deformity of the arms or hands .....	5
Defect or deformity of the hip .....	8
Defect or deformity of the leg or foot .....	40
General defect or deformity which may be due to rickets, infantile paralysis, etc. ....	27

#### EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS.

78 certificates for part time employment have been granted during the year following a satisfactory medical examination.

The nature of the employment to be followed was, 30 for the delivery of milk, 47 for the delivery of newspapers, and 1 for other incidental employment.

#### EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN.

A list of exceptional children is kept and the list is amended from year to year. At the end of 1939 the number of children whose names appeared on this list, analysed according to the various defects from which they suffered was as follows :—

Partially blind .....	Attending Certified School .....	3
Partially deaf .....	Attending Special Deaf School .....	2
Mentally defective .....	Attending Special School .....	8
	Attending Elementary School .....	1
Epileptic (not severe) .....	Attending Elementary School .....	2
Heart disease .....	Attending Elementary School .....	2
	Not attending School .....	1
Crippled children .....	Attending Elementary School .....	7
	At Hospital or Institution .....	2
	At no School or Institution .....	4
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	At no School or Institution .....	1
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	At Elementary Schools .....	21
	At Hospital or Institution .....	1
Delicate children .....	At Open Air Residential School .....	40
Multiple Defects .....	At No School or Institution .....	3

The Special Schools for the partially blind or deaf children are at Burnley. The mentally defective children who prior to the outbreak of war attended the Special School at Burnley, now attend a Special School which has been inaugurated at Grove House, Barrowford. These premises were adapted for this purpose to accommodate mentally defective children who were received into the town as evacuees, and who now reside there. The Nelson children are however non-resident and attend at the school daily.

#### OPEN AIR SCHOOL.

Up to the end of August, 1939, the Open Air School had been conducted on similar lines to previous years. A full complement of scholars had been maintained and the usual medical inspections and treatments carried out. The outbreak of war necessitated changes and all the scholars were excluded from school to enable the premises to be used for the reception of special children evacuated from Bradford.

Arrangements were later made for the accommodation of a limited number of the Open Air School scholars at the Camp School at Whitehough, where they would be in residence.

After a special medical inspection 40 scholars were selected to go to the Camp School, 30 were transferred to the ordinary schools and pronounced suitable for full time atten-



dance, 21 were transferred to the ordinary schools but only to attend half time, and the rest were excluded from school for varying periods.

During the year 171 children have received the benefit of Open Air School treatment for varying periods.

The attendance of the Nurse at the School has been continuous whilst the scholars have been in attendance, and during the year 196 defects, relating to 106 children, have been treated. For this purpose 3,342 treatments have been carried out.

#### NURSERY SCHOOL.

The Nursery School was closed temporarily on the outbreak of war. At the commencement of the year there were 71 children on the rolls, and at the time of closure this number had increased to 78. An average attendance of 52.5 had been recorded up to this period.

On the transference of the defective evacuated children from the Open Air School premises, it was decided to recommence Nursery Classes at these premises for children under school age but who were not less than  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years of age. On re-opening which took place on the 4th December, 31 children were enrolled, and an average attendance of 28 was maintained to the end of the year.

During the year a sum total of 15,687 attendances have been made at the Nursery Schools. Whilst in session, medical inspection of the children has been maintained, a total of 74 children having been examined. In these inspections 22 defects were found requiring treatment, and 10 defects found requiring observation.

The School Nurse has paid routine visits and carried out treatment of minor defects. 53 defects were treated in relation to 39 children, necessitating 122 treatments.

#### CAMP SCHOOL.

Whilst in use as a Camp School, up to the 1st September, 241 scholars had attended the School as a Camp School for a two weeks stay, and 386 scholars had attended as a Holiday Camp for one week's stay.

## CONVALESCENT HOME.

39 girls and 34 boys have received the benefit of a holiday during the year at the Thursby Convalescent Home, Lytham St. Annes. This is due to the courtesy of the Managers and Secretary of the Home to whom our thanks are extended.

## PROVISION OF MILK TO SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The scheme for the provision of milk to school children has been maintained during the year whilst the schools have been in session. No change in procedure has taken place and the milk provided is from herds subject to the tuberculin test.

The average number of children on the school rolls is 3,567, and during the year the weekly average number of children taking milk was 2,960. The number of children receiving the milk free was approximately 15.6%. A total of 773,603 bottles of milk have been supplied during the year.

## PROVISION OF MEALS.

181 children were in receipt of free meals at the commencement of the year, but by the end of the year this number was reduced to 59. During the year 251 children have received meals (all dinners), the actual number of dinners provided being 30,371.

## SWIMMING BATHS.

Number of attendances of elementary school children at the Public Baths during 1939 ..... 25,290

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There has been no outbreak of Infectious Disease, either notifiable or non-notifiable, amongst school children during the year which calls for any special comment. 7 cases of Scarlet Fever and 4 cases of Diphtheria have been notified in which the patient was of school age. These are remarkably low figures.

Only sporadic cases of other diseases occurred.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

**R. G. MARKHAM, M.B., D.P.H.,**

School Medical Officer.

# Medical Inspection Returns.

TABLE I.

## MEDICAL INSPECTIONS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

### A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups :

Entrants ... ..	292
Second Age Group ... ..	404
Third Age Group ... ..	340
Total ... ..	1036
Number of other Routine Inspections ... ..	Nil
Grand Total ... ..	1036

### B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-inspections ... .. 2345

TABLE II.

Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the Year in the Routine Age Groups up to 31st August, 1939.

AGE GROUPS	Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants .....	267	...	...	265	99.25	2	00.75	...	...
Second Age Group .....	333	2	0.60	330	99.10	1	00.30	...	...
Third Age Group .....	85	...	...	84	98.82	1	01.18	...	...
Other Routine Inspect's	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total.....	685	2	0.29	679	99.13	4	0.58	...	...

TABLE III.

### RETURN OF BLIND OR DEAF CHILDREN.

Defect	At Public Elementary Schools	At other Institutions	At no School or Institution	Total
Blind .....	—	—	—	Nil
Deaf .....	—	3	—	3

These children attend a Certified School for the Deaf (Non-residential).



TABLE IV.

Year ended 31st December, 1939.

## TREATMENT TABLES.

GROUP I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table VI.).

DISEASE OR DEFECT.	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year		
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Otherwise	Total
Skin—			
Ringworm-Scalp—			
(i) X-Ray Treatment. If none, indicate by dash ... ..	...	...	...
(ii) Other Treatment ... ..	1	...	1
Ringworm-Body ... ..	4	...	4
Scabies ... ..	7 (3)	...	7 (3)
Impetigo ... ..	117 (14)	...	117 (14)
Other skin disease ... ..	177 (14)	1	178 (14)
Minor Eye Defects—(External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.) ... ..	66 (1)	3	69 (1)
Minor Ear Defects ... ..	155	2	157
Miscellaneous (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.) ...	697 (25)	70 (10)	767 (35)
Total ... ..	1224 (57)	76 (10)	1300 (67)

GROUP II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.).

	No. of Defects dealt with		
	Under the Authority's Scheme	Other-wise	Total
Errors of Refraction (including Squint) (Operations for squint should be recorded separately in the body of the School Medical Officer's Report)	151 (4)	15	166 (4)
Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.) ... ..	...	...	...
Total ... ..	151 (4)	15	166 (4)
No. of Children for whom spectacles were			
(a) Prescribed ... ..	87 (2)	10	97 (2)
(b) Obtained ... ..	86 (2)	10	96 (2)

Figures shown in brackets relate to evacuated children in the area, and these figures are included in the other totals.

TABLE IV.—*Continued.*

## GROUP III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS.													
Received Operative Treatment.												Received other forms of Treatment	Total number Treated
Under the Authority's Scheme in Clinic or Hospital				By Private Practitioner or Hospital apart from the Authority's Scheme				Total					
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)		
...	...	...	...	21	...	5	2	21	...	5	2	146	174

(i) Tonsils only. (ii) Adenoids only. (iii) Tonsils and adenoids.  
 (iv) Other defects of the nose and throat.

## GROUP IV.—Orthopædic and Postural Defects.

	Under the Authority's Scheme			Otherwise			Total number treated
	Residential treatment with education.	Residential treatment without education.	Non-residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic.	Residential treatment with education.	Residential treatment without education.	Non-residential treatment at an orthopaedic clinic.	
Number of children treated	4	...	58	—	—	—	58

## GROUP V.—Dental Inspection and Treatment.

(1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist.

(a) Routine age-groups.	{	Aged 5	.....	—
		6	.....	344
		7	.....	384
		8	.....	415
		9	.....	405
		10	.....	395
		11	.....	348
		12	.....	335
		13	.....	401
		14	.....	—
Total			.....	3027

(b) Specials ..... Nil

(c) Total (Routine and Specials) ..... 3027

(2) Number found to require treatment ..... 2118

(3) Number actually treated ..... 1279

(4) Attendances made by children for treatment ..... 1279

(5) Half-days devoted to :—		
Inspection .....	60	
Treatment .....	107	167
(6) Fillings : Permanent Teeth .....	231	
Temporary Teeth .....	11	242
(7) Extractions : Permanent Teeth .....	269	
Temporary Teeth .....	2058	2327
(8) Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions .....		Nil
(9) Other Operations : Permanent Teeth .....	244	
Temporary Teeth .....	529	773

### GROUP VI.—Uncleanliness and Verminous Condition.

(i) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses .....	4	
(ii) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses .....	12210	(259)
(iii) Number of individual children found unclean .....	174	(12)
(iv) Number of individual children cleansed under Section 87 (2) and (3) of the Education Act, 1921 .....	Nil	
(v) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—		
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921 .....	Nil	
(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws .....	Nil	

TABLE V.

### Monthly Summary of Work at School Clinic.

MONTH.	No. of defects under treatment at beginning of month	No. of defects admitted during month	No. of defects discharged during month	No. of defects under treatment at end of month	No. of visits by children to Clinic	No. of homes visited by Nurse	No. of visits to homes	No. of pairs of Spectacles supplied or ordered	No. of Examinations by Nurse at School
January	74	139	45	168	724	1	1	10	516
February	168	145	128	185	1227	4	8	3	2491
March	185	189	153	221	1318	79	83	23	1048
April	221	97	107	211	788	113	120	2	1797
May	211	181	151	241	1356	59	63	14	176
June	241	123	222	142	1198	166	172	20	...
July	142	40	17	165	109	...	...	1	...
August	165	128	127	166	920	9	12	2	3054
September	166	111	130	147	677	6	9	3	317
October	147	173	114	206	1016	...	...	13	132
November	206	181	198	189	1085	45	51	6	2201
December	189	111	158	142	843	115	125	17	469
TOTALS	2115	1618	1550	2183	11261	597	644	114	12199

Average Attendance per day ... 40.22.



TABLE VI.

Anthropometric Table showing Average Height and Weight of children examined at various ages.

BOYS			GIRLS	
AGE	HEIGHT in inches	WEIGHT in pounds	HEIGHT in inches	WEIGHT in pounds
3 Years...	39.98	36.89	38.10	34.53
4    ,,	40.69	39.71	41.21	37.89
5    ,,	43.18	43.05	43.21	43.09
6    ,,	45.67	47.39	44.39	46.33
7    ,,	47.92	53.07	47.42	50.29
8    ,,	49.89	58.16	49.00	55.02
9    ,,	51.52	67.82	51.82	63.05
10   ,,	52.81	68.70	54.03	68.15
11   ,,	55.22	74.56	56.70	76.11
12   ,,	56.07	77.66	56.92	83.00
13   ,,	58.45	86.89	60.07	95.30
14   ,,	58.93	97.64	61.13	101.51

TABLE VII.

Return of Medical Inspections for purposes of Employment of Children and Young Persons, 1939.

	Number Examined	Number of Certificates Granted	Nature of Employment		
			Delivery of Milk	Delivery of News- papers	Other Employ- ment
Boys .....	78	78	30	47	1
Girls .....	...	...	...	...	...
Total...	78	78	30	47	1





Borough of Nelson.

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Annual Report  
of the  
School Dental Clinic  
For the Year 1939.

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THOMAS JACKSON, L.D.S.,  
Dental Surgeon.



## SCHOOL CLINIC,

11, CARR ROAD, NELSON.

31ST DECEMBER, 1939.

**To the Members of the Nelson Education Authority.**

Once again I present to you my report of the work done at the School Dental Clinic.

In some ways I am disappointed at the actual figures of the report; still, as in other phases of life and departmental work, there are the "Ups" and "Downs."

We have carried on the dental work as in previous years, giving every child between approximately 6 years of age and school leaving age the opportunity of having their teeth inspected, advice given and treatment afforded.

During the year I inspected 3,027 children, of whom I found 909 who did not require treatment, leaving 2,118 needing treatment and actually sent for. Of these, 1,279 attended the Clinic for treatment.

In my opinion, there are three reasons for the decline in attendance, viz. :—

1. The rough and severe weather experienced at the beginning of the year.
2. I sent for 75 children to attend the Clinic, but none attended owing to being away at the Camp School. These children were given a second chance to attend, but only five came.
3. The reception into the town of evacuees, which quite upset our arrangements until too late to rectify.

Since September I have treated 18 Evacuees who presented themselves with toothache.

At your request I have attended at the Nursery School on 3 occasions since April last and inspected the children in

attendance. I found a much better dental condition of the children than I had anticipated. I append separate tabulated figures of inspection and treatment.

I have still to regret the great indifference of the Senior scholars to the welfare of their teeth—they, and their parents too, seem to think if a tooth has “gone bad,” “I’ll have it out and done with it.” No thought whatever is given to the masticating of food, even if they realise there is such a stage in the consumption of food. I come across children—boys and girls alike—who have only 10 or 12 teeth in their mouths, whereas they ought to have 20 or 22. The 12 teeth I mention are generally the front teeth. This, I think you will agree with me, is deplorable. Hundreds of children’s teeth are sacrificed every year, which might otherwise have been saved and preserved.

I am pleased to report that the improvement in the cleanliness of the teeth of children has been maintained during the year.

I have spent 60 half-days in inspection of children and 107 half-days in treatment, also 3 half-days at the beginning of the year and 9 half-days at the end of the year in clerical work, in addition to which I spend 3 hours each week in clerical work after the inspection.

I receive every assistance from the Head Masters, Head Mistresses and School Nurses during inspection and treatment, which I greatly appreciate.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

THOS. JACKSON, L.D.S.,

School Dentist.

TABLE I.  
Shewing Results of Inspections.

Age in Years and Sex	Number Inspected	Temporary			Permanent			Nils	Urgents
		Sound	Savable	Un- savable	Sound	Savable	Un- savable		
6—Girls ...	175	2378	201	239	810	...	...	61	...
Boys ...	169	2502	180	206	578	1	...	66	...
7—Girls ...	190	1725	169	332	1670	22	...	52	...
Boys ...	194	1866	189	353	1516	24	...	51	15
8—Girls ...	202	1219	61	351	2337	69	9	58	34
Boys ...	213	1255	105	440	2306	71	2	53	42
9—Girls ...	187	628	31	330	2726	93	22	47	51
Boys ...	218	1047	48	390	2796	107	6	62	49
10—Girls ...	195	326	9	235	3354	98	48	75	49
Boys ...	200	521	8	300	3156	108	38	57	54
11—Girls ...	170	56	...	108	3579	120	103	56	54
Boys ...	178	145	6	201	3314	104	89	47	36
12—Girls ...	175	8	...	59	4029	115	169	50	49
Boys ...	160	70	...	117	3273	96	134	45	51
13—Girls ...	169	7	...	12	3987	170	180	52	59
Boys ...	232	...	...	83	5363	162	223	77	73
Total ...	3027	13753	1007	3756	44794	1360	1023	909	616

28 girls and 13 boys = 41 absent at the inspections.

TABLE II.  
Shewing Percentages of Inspections.

Year	Sex	Number of Children Inspected	Sound Dentition	Require Urgent Treatment	Require Treatment
6	Girls	175	34·85	00·00	65·16
	Boys	169	39·05	00·00	60·95
7	Girls	190	27·36	00·00	72·64
	Boys	194	26·70	7·73	65·57
8	Girls	202	28·71	16·83	54·46
	Boys	213	24·88	19·71	55·41
9	Girls	187	25·13	27·27	48·60
	Boys	218	28·44	22·47	49·09
10	Girls	195	38·46	25·12	36·88
	Boys	200	28·50	27·00	44·50
11	Girls	170	32·94	31·76	35·30
	Boys	178	26·37	20·22	53·41
12	Girls	175	28·57	28·00	43·43
	Boys	160	28·12	31·87	40·01
13	Girls	169	30·76	34·88	34·36
	Boys	232	33·19	31·46	35·35
Divide by 16		3027	484·03	324·32	795·11
Compared with 1938		189·1	30·25	20·26	49·70
	Increase or Decrease	...	...	1·63	...
		4·00	0·37	...	1·42



TABLE III.

Shewing Percentages of Attendances at Clinic.

Years	Sex	Number Inspected	Treated at Clinic	Percentage
6	Girls	175	120	68.57
	Boys	169	110	65.09
7	Girls	190	112	58.94
	Boys	194	110	56.66
8	Girls	202	84	41.58
	Boys	213	125	58.54
9	Girls	187	76	40.63
	Boys	218	104	47.70
10	Girls	195	71	36.41
	Boys	200	84	42.00
11	Girls	170	49	28.82
	Boys	178	64	35.91
12	Girls	175	45	25.71
	Boys	160	46	28.75
13	Girls	169	38	22.48
	Boys	232	41	17.67
Divide by 16		3027	1279	675.46
Average		189.1	79.95	42.21
Compared with 1938				
Increase .....		...	...	...
Decrease .....		4.00	10.05	4.32

TABLE IV.

Shewing Total Treatments.

Years	Extractions		Fillings		Dressings		Extract'ns under local An'esth'tic
	Tem'ry	Perm'nt	Tem'ry	Permn't	Tem'ry	Permn't	
6	369	...	11	2	269	...	23
7	474	3	...	12	189	14	59
8	449	9	...	38	49	41	71
9	340	17	...	47	13	56	95
10	244	34	...	51	9	59	70
11	124	56	...	30	...	28	70
12	48	82	...	15	...	25	91
13	10	68	...	36	...	21	66
Total	2058	269	11	231	529	244	545

TABLE V.

Shewing Total Attending Clinic.

Age	Girls	Boys	Total
6 years...	120	110	230
7 „ ...	112	110	222
8 „ ...	84	125	209
9 „ ...	76	104	180
10 „ ...	71	84	155
11 „ ...	49	64	113
12 „ ...	45	46	91
13 „ ...	38	41	79
Total ...	595	684	1279

TABLE VI.

Shewing Total Average on Number Inspected.

	1939.		1938.		Increase		Decrease
Total Average Attendance at Clinic ...	42.21	...	46.48	...	—	...	4.27
Sound Dentition .....	30.02	...	30.47	...	—	...	0.45
Taken to own Dentist (Reported) .....	23.25	...	22.04	...	1.21	...	—
Refused Treatment, Indifferent, Ill, Left After Inspection, or Untraced Through Removal to Other Schools	4.52	...	1.01	...	3.51	...	—
	<u>100.00</u>		<u>100.00</u>				

TABLE VII.

Shewing Comparisons in Number of Children Inspected.

	1939.		1938.
Number of children inspected .....	3027	...	3098
Number of Nils .....	909	...	944
	<u>2118</u>	...	<u>2154</u>
Number of children actually sent for .....	1279	...	1440
Percentage of children attending clinic who were actually sent for .....	60.38	...	66.85
Decrease percentage of children attending clinic .....	6.47		

## TABLE VIII.

## Shewing Comparisons of Children Inspected.

	1938.		1939.		Increase.		Decrease.
6 Years .....	349	...	344	...	—	...	5
7 Years .....	414	...	383	...	—	...	30
8 Years .....	423	...	415	...	—	...	8
9 Years .....	414	...	405	...	—	...	9
10 Years .....	383	...	395	...	12	...	—
11 Years .....	384	...	348	...	—	...	36
12 Years .....	345	...	335	...	—	...	10
13 Years .....	386	...	401	...	15	...	—
	<u>3098</u>	...	<u>3027</u>	...	<u>27</u>	...	<u>98</u>

Net Decrease Inspected ... 71.

## NURSERY SCHOOL.

1939.	Girls		Boys		Total		Nils		Treated
April 21st .....	19	...	36	...	55	...	47	...	4
August 11th .....	20	...	35	...	55	...	42	...	10
December 13th .....	8	...	20	...	28	...	23	...	4
Totals .....	<u>47</u>	...	<u>91</u>	...	<u>138</u>	...	<u>112</u>	...	<u>18</u>

## Shewing Results of Inspections.

	Temporary.								
Number inspected	Sound		Savable	Unsavable	Nils		Urgents		
47 Girls .....	923	...	11	...	1	...	40	...	—
91 Boys .....	1738	...	48	...	9	...	72	...	1
Totals .....	<u>2661</u>	...	<u>59</u>	...	<u>10</u>	...	<u>112</u>	...	<u>1</u>

## Shewing Treatments.

Extractions		Fillings		Dressings
7	...	12	...	28



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